

into an unparalleled partner in promoting the ideals of democracy, personal freedom, and human rights.

The United States has also tirelessly supported Israel as it continues to seek lasting peaceful coexistence with its neighbors to bring a permanent end to years of suffering and senseless violence. And we will continue to be there to support them in that effort.

When Yitzhak Rabin went before the Knesset in October 1995 to discuss the ratification of the Israeli-Palestinian interim agreement, he said the following:

“Here, in the land of Israel, we returned and built a nation. Here, in the land of Israel, we established a state. The land of the prophets, which bequeathed to the world the values of morality, law and justice, was, after two thousand years, restored to its lawful owners—the members of the Jewish people. On its land, we have built an exceptional national home and state.”

Israel is indeed an exceptional nation state, and this milestone is a great testament to the hope, faith, and perseverance of the Jewish people. I offer my congratulations to Israel on the 60th anniversary of its founding.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO HARVEY WHITE WOMAN

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President. I wish to recognize a distinguished member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Harvey White Woman. Harvey passed away on Monday, March 31, 2008 following a brave battle against a rare form of cancer. Though he was only 44, he carried the wisdom and insight of many elders and worked in a positive way to educate native and nonnative people on treaty and water rights. He was often asked to give presentations to adults and schoolchildren alike about the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 as a way to educate the public, not only about the history of this region of our country but also about the promises that were made to native people.

In his work as an assistant to the Oglala Sioux Tribe's Fifth Member's office, Harvey's voice could be heard reminding us as Members of Congress of our duties to uphold those treaty obligations. He also served on the board of the Lakota Fund in Kyle and most recently as the first director of the Wawokiye Business Institute. The Wawokiye Institute gives specialized assistance to entrepreneurs who are working toward realizing their goal of business success. Through his work and presentations on traditional entrepreneurship, many people around the world gained a better understanding of the business instincts of native people throughout history.

Harvey also led the newly formed Oglala Lakota Cancer Survivors, Inc., on Pine Ridge, which is an effort to bring

together those survivors and their families to talk about cancer and the unique circumstances that native people face.

Harvey was taken from us too soon. I would like to extend my deepest condolences to his family and his friends in this time of great loss and encourage them to go forward with Harvey's efforts.●

THE LOUISIANA HONOR AIR

• Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge and honor a very special group, the Louisiana HonorAir. Louisiana HonorAir is a not-for-profit group that flies as many as 200 World War II veterans a year up to Washington, DC, free of charge. On April 26, 2008 a group of 99 veterans will reach Washington as part of this very special program.

I want to take a moment to thank all the brave veterans visiting our Capitol city this trip:

Richard S. Allain; Wilton J. Aucoin, Sr.; Henry E. Babineaux; Nolan P. Barras; James R. Bazet, Sr.; Raymond R. Beadle, Sr.; George Beaugh, Sr.; John S. Becnel, Jr.; Charles F. Berard; Dailey J. Berard; Cecile M. Beyt; Raymond L. Bienvenu; Dewey D. Billodeau; Nelson C. Boudreaux; Jules C. Bourgeois; Alby J. Bourque; Roy J. Boutte, Sr.; Adam T. Boyd; Gerald C. Braud; Minos J. Breaux.

Charles E. Broussard; Dennis J. Broussard; Taylor J. Broussard, Jr.; Earl H. Brown, Sr.; Leroy M. Burgess; Dracos D. Burke; Leroy J. Coulter; Perry J. Decuir; Alvy A. DeHart; Rogers DeHart, Sr.; Charles L. DeLahoussaye; Gustave A. Duhon; John N. Fernandez; William S. Flores; Guy J. Folse; Theresa D. Formeller; James T. Fulgham; Claby J. Gary; Raymond H. George; Joseph C. Glorioso.

Carlo J. Governale; Bert A. Guiberteau; Lloyd J. Guillory; James S. Hebert; Joseph V. Hebert; Julius M. Hebert; Oddie J. Hebert; Lawrence Lacy; Richard LaFleur; James W. Lancios; Alfred S. Landry; Walter J. Latiolais, Sr.; Harold P. LeBlanc; Malcolm F. LeCompte; Joseph H. LeGrand; Robert R. LeJeune; RosaMae Lopez; Ray A. Louviere; Charles T. Mahoney; Frank O. Maness, Jr.

Salvatore Marchese, Jr.; Edith L. Mazurek; Mahlen M. Meaux; Chelly P. Mendoza; Woodrow P. Mendoza; Leroy E. Miller; Leon J. Minvielle, Jr.; Louis P. Monte; George P. Munson; Henry A. Myers, Sr.; Clifford D. Neal; James H. Newcomb, Sr.; Stewart L. Newman; Jewell D. Palmer; Gerald F. Patout; Jules G. Patout; Rene L. Patout; Jasper P. Pennington; George W. Perry; Irwin M. Pierron.

Thomas M. Randazzo; Griffin P. Reaux; Clyde R. Redmond; Donald A.J. Sanders; Joseph A. Sarradet, Jr.; Clifton O. Schexnayder; Francis P. Schwing; George E. Schwing; Jerry E. Shea, Sr.; George C. Simar; Emile J. Tauzin; Paul A. Traywick; Daniel L. Verret, Sr.; Laines W. Vincent; RoseMary R. Walker; Johnnie A. Webb; Oliver A. Williams, Jr.; Robert L. Williams; Howard E. Winston.

While visiting Washington, DC, these veterans will tour Arlington National Cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean Memorial, and the World War II Memorial. This program provides many veterans with their only opportunity to see the great memorials dedicated to their service.

Thus, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their devotion and service to our Nation.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S INTENT TO ADD THE SOLOMON ISLANDS TO THE LIST OF LEAST-DEVELOPED BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES UNDER THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES PROGRAM—PM 44

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 502(f)(1)(B) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the “Act”), I am providing notification of my intent to add the Solomon Islands to the list of least-developed beneficiary developing countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program. In Executive Order 12302 of April 1, 1981, the Solomon Islands was designated as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP program. After considering the criteria set forth in sections 501 and 502 of the Act, I have determined that it is appropriate to extend least-developed beneficiary developing country benefits to the Solomon Islands.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 17, 2008.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2537. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act relating to beach monitoring, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks,